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Making sense of the world

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS

THE WEEK Junior



BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Celebrating people who have helped make the nation great p4





This week's big news



A way to help refugees



Many Ukrainians fleeing the war have come to the US. On January 19, President Joe Biden announced the Welcome Corps, a way for Americans to sponsor Ukrainians and other refugees. People can pay their expenses, help find housing, set up appointments and English lessons, and more. Similar plans exist in 15 other countries.

US sends assistance to Ukraine

On January 19, the US announced one of its largest commitments to help Ukraine in its war with Russia. Government leaders said the war is entering an important new chapter as it approaches one year since Russia invaded Ukraine on February 24, 2022.

What happened?

US President Joe Biden's administration agreed to send about \$2.5 billion in weapons and equipment to assist Ukraine. The latest package includes 90 armored combat vehicles, called Strykers, which the US is sending for the first time. The aid also includes more vehicles, ammunition, and systems for defending troops and cities against air attacks. The supplies will be delivered as quickly as possible, ideally within weeks. In 2022, the US sent a total of nearly \$50 billion in humanitarian, military, and financial aid to Ukraine.

Why is this significant?

The war has calmed down over the winter, but Russia is expected to renew its attacks in the spring. To prepare for that, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky has been asking for additional military support. That

includes modern weapons and armored vehicles to replace the older and outdated equipment Ukraine has been using. The new supplies will help Ukraine fight more effectively and push through areas where the Russians have erected strong defenses. The vehicles will be especially useful to move troops around in the wide-open farmland of the Donbas region, where most of the current fighting is taking place.

How are other countries helping?

Many countries from Europe and North America are providing support. The UK is sending 600 missiles and 14 tanks, France and Germany agreed to send dozens more vehicles, and Sweden is offering weapons systems and armored vehicles. Canada is supplying 200 personnel carriers. For months, Ukraine has also been requesting a type of tank called a Leopard, which is made in Germany. Many European countries, including Poland, have Leopards, but they are required by law to get Germany's permission to transfer them to Ukraine. Germany had resisted giving approval, but Poland and other nations have been pressuring the German government to do so. As *The Week*

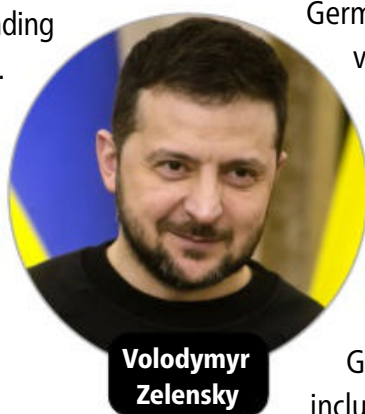
Junior went to press on January 24, German media was reporting that Germany had agreed to send at least 14 Leopards to Ukraine.

How have people reacted?

A Ukrainian military commander told BBC News that the tanks they're currently using are "not really suited for modern warfare." He and other troops were optimistic that new equipment would help Ukraine win the war. Zelensky told a German news channel that the equipment and vehicles serve a purpose beyond battle. "They will motivate our soldiers... because they show that the whole world is with you," he said. Biden said, "Right now the war in Ukraine is at a critical point. We have to do everything we can."

What will happen next?

The weapons, tanks, and vehicles will be shipped to Ukraine, and troops will be trained to use them as they prepare for a new phase of the war. On January 22, Ukraine celebrated a holiday called Unity Day, which commemorates a treaty signed in 1919 that united the nation into a single state. In remarks about that holiday, Zelensky called on Ukrainians to remain unified. "We are all together, no matter where we were born and where we grew up," he said. "Say today: I will defend my Ukraine."



Volodymyr Zelensky



New Zealand's leader resigns

In a surprise announcement on January 19, Jacinda Ardern, prime minister of New Zealand, said she would step down on February 7. When Ardern became prime minister (like a President) in 2017, at age 37, she was the youngest female head of government in the world. Ardern, whose second term was set to end in October, said she no longer felt she had what it took to do the job.

Ardern led the Labour Party and was known for her strict Covid-19 policies, including border closures and nationwide lockdowns, which kept cases down. Ardern also fought for women's rights, an end to poverty, and stricter gun laws.

In New Zealand, voters elect members of Parliament (similar to Congress) in a general election, and the leader of the party that wins the most seats becomes prime minister. On January 22, the Labour Party elected Chris Hipkins as its new leader. Hipkins has worked closely with Ardern as minister of police, education, and public service. He will serve as prime minister until the general election on October 14.



Jacinda Ardern



Celebrating the Year of the Rabbit in China

WOW!
Hundreds of millions of people from around the world travel to see family and friends for Lunar New Year.

Lunar New Year begins

For more than 2 billion people around the world, January 22 marked the beginning of the Lunar New Year. It is one of the most important holidays in Asian countries including China, Vietnam, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, and Thailand, which follow the lunar (relating to the Moon) calendar for holidays and festivals.

Lunar New Year begins on the first new Moon (when the crescent appears) between January 21 and February 20. Celebrations typically last for 15 or 16 days, until the full Moon. In China, the holiday is also called Spring Festival and can last up to 40 days. In Chinese tradition, every year is named after one of 12 animals. In most countries celebrating the Lunar New Year, it's the Year of the Rabbit, though in Vietnam, it's the Year of the Cat.

The new year is celebrated with parades and fireworks, as well as customs that vary by region. South Koreans wear traditional clothing called *hanbok* and eat a soup called *tteokguk*. In the Philippines, families feast at midnight, wear polka dots for luck, and jump for joy. In China, businesses close for seven days. People wear red and put up red decorations to symbolize good fortune, and young people receive red envelopes containing money. Across the globe, people gather with relatives, share meals, and pay respect to elders.

This year, many Asian nations held their largest public new year celebrations in three years, since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. Many cities and towns across the US held parades, festivals, and other celebrations.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

A FEATHERED FAREWELL

Three peacocks that lived at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York City have "retired" to an animal sanctuary. The aging birds—Harry, Jim, and Phil—roamed church grounds for about 20 years. "We love them," said a church leader.



Jim the peacock



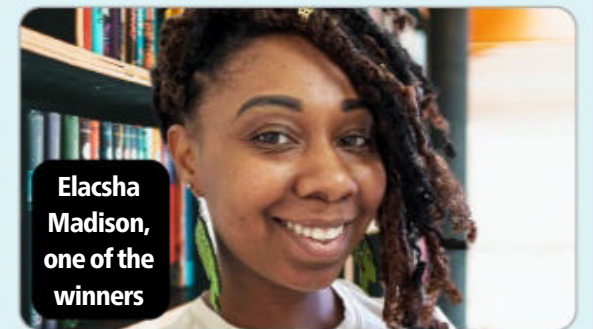
The stamps

SENDING LOVE

Pet lovers can honor their furry friends with the latest Love Forever stamps from the US Postal Service (USPS). The illustrated stamps feature a kitten or a puppy with a heart. The USPS dedicated them at an event at an animal shelter in Texas, where adoptable animals were on hand.

HONORING LIBRARIANS

Ten outstanding public or school librarians have received the 2023 I Love My Librarian award. Honorees were nominated by people in their communities and received \$5,000 each. They "positively impact the lives of those they serve every day," said the president of the American Library Association, which awarded the prizes.



Elacsha Madison, one of the winners



National news

WOW!

At age 22, Amanda Gorman became the youngest inaugural poet when she recited "The Hill We Climb" at President Joe Biden's inauguration in 2021.



The National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia, showcases the history of the civil rights movement.

A trailblazing advocate



Before creating what is now Black History Month, Dr. Carter G. Woodson (shown above) became the second Black man to earn his doctorate degree from Harvard University. Born in 1875 to parents who were formerly enslaved, he went on to publish many books that showcased the contributions of Black Americans.

Black History Month to start across US

Black History Month is set to begin in the US on February 1. It is a time to celebrate the contributions of Black people to US history and to recognize notable Black Americans from the past as well as current leaders in politics, science, the arts, and all aspects of the nation's life and culture.

What is this year's theme?

The theme for 2023 is Black Resistance, selected by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH). The theme's aim is to bring awareness to the many ways in which Black people have worked to resist racism and promote equality. Some examples include participating in civic life, establishing schools and hospitals, and creating cultural and religious centers.

How did the month come to be?

In 1926, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, a founder of what is now ASALH, created a week to recognize Black Americans, who were often overlooked. He chose a week in February that coincided with the birthdays of activist Frederick Douglass (1818–1895) and Abraham Lincoln (1809–1865), the 16th US President, who ended slavery. Many cities began recognizing the week. In 1976, President Gerald Ford established February as Black History Month.

What have leaders said?

Many leaders have spoken of the central role of Black people in creating our national identity. "Black history is American history," President Joe Biden said in 2022 while marking the month.

Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham, a historian of Black studies at Harvard University, has emphasized the importance of encouraging people to learn about Black history anytime, not just in February.

How will the month be marked this year?

Events and festivities are planned across the US. In Los Angeles, California, the Aquarium of the Pacific will host a festival that features West African dancers. The Chicago History Museum will display a visual history of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the civil rights leader. The National Center for Civil and Human Rights in Atlanta, Georgia, is holding workshops for educators teaching about slavery. In New York City, the Harlem Chamber Players will perform the work of jazz legend Duke Ellington.



WORD OF THE WEEK

MOON

The Lunar New Year begins with the first new Moon of the "lunar" calendar, in which luna is Latin for "Moon." "Moon" comes from an ancient root that also gave us the word "month," a period of time that corresponds to the Moon's revolution. The word "Moon" is also hiding in the word "Monday," which means "day of the Moon."



WHO'S WHO ON THE COVER

1. Bessie Smith
2. Simone Biles
3. Frederick Douglass
4. Colin Powell
5. Mae Jemison
6. Maya Angelou
7. Sidney Poitier
8. Chuck Berry
9. Toni Morrison
10. Barack Obama
11. Rosa Parks
12. Ruby Bridges
13. Ketanji Brown Jackson
14. Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.
15. Louis Armstrong
16. Quinta Brunson
17. Neil deGrasse Tyson
18. LeBron James
19. Lena Horne
20. Muhammad Ali
21. Malcolm X
22. Faith Ringgold
23. Ida B. Wells
24. John Lewis
25. Benjamin Oliver Davis Jr.
26. Misty Copeland
27. Harriet Tubman
28. Chadwick Boseman
29. Jackie Robinson
30. Billie Holiday
31. Serena Williams
32. Amanda Gorman





New rules set for organic food

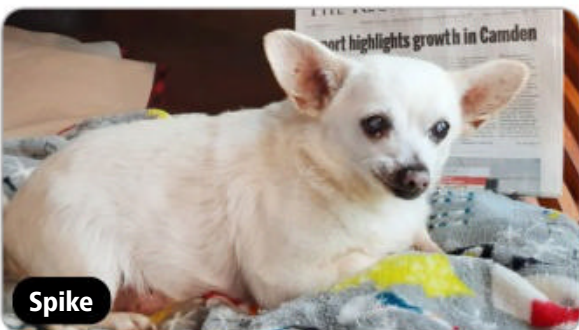
The USDA (agency that monitors food safety) has updated its guidelines to require more proof from food companies that label their products organic. Ingredients, soil quality, and animal treatment will be more closely examined to ensure that foods labeled organic are free of substances like pesticides. The revisions, the most significant in more than 30 years, were made so customers can feel confident about organic purchases. They will go into effect in March.



Allyson Felix

Tribute to Olympic champion

Running star Allyson Felix, a seven-time Olympic gold medalist, will have a track field named in her honor: the Allyson Felix Field at the University of Southern California (USC) in Los Angeles. Felix graduated from USC in 2008 and has won the most Olympic medals of any American track athlete. "It's such a huge honor to be a part of history in the campus," Felix said. "It's such a special place for me."



Spike

Oldest living dog is recognized

A Chihuahua mix named Spike has been certified as the "oldest dog living" by Guinness World Records. Spike, who lives in Ohio, set the record when he turned 23 years and 43 days old. His owner, Rita Kimball, who rescued Spike 13 years ago after finding him in a parking lot, said he enjoys taking walks and visiting animals on her farm. "He makes the best of each day," she said.

HOW TIMES HAVE CHANGED

In 1938, when the happiness study began, a dozen eggs cost about 36 cents and a gallon of gas cost about 20 cents.



Spending time with loved ones can increase happiness.



Longest study on happiness completed

The world's longest-ever study to examine happiness was recently completed by scientists at Harvard Medical School. After 85 years, the research found that happy people all shared one common trait: They had good relationships.

In 1938, the Harvard Study of Adult Development launched a research project to figure out what makes people thrive. The study initially focused on 724 people but later expanded to include more than three generations of their descendants. In all, more than 2,000 participants were studied. The results were published in a book, *The Good Life: Lessons from the World's Longest Scientific Study of Happiness*.

The researchers found that having strong, positive relationships made people feel the happiest. The relationships could be with a partner or spouse, another family member, or a friend. The reason relationships may be key to happiness is that they help people manage stress, said Dr. Robert

Waldinger, the study director. In addition, the study concluded that a challenging life is often a happy one because people gain satisfaction from doing hard tasks, such as raising children or opening a business. It's also OK not to feel happy all the time, the study found.

Researchers followed the study participants throughout their lives, starting when they were teenagers. They collected data about their physical and mental well-being, including exercise levels and top worries. The scientists met with the participants and spent time observing their behavior and their living conditions. Study participants also rated their lives in questionnaires and were given physical examinations that included brain scans and blood tests.

Dr. Waldinger said that some common beliefs about happiness didn't hold up when they were studied. For instance, people with plenty of money weren't necessarily happier. You can't buy happiness, he said.



Dr. Robert Waldinger, study director

THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Horse spotted riding in the back seat during McDonald's drive-through run" UPI





Around the world



Students in the UK



United Kingdom Schools may temporarily close

Some schools in the UK are expected to temporarily close on seven days in February and March, when teachers plan to go on strike (when employees stop doing their jobs to protest pay or working conditions). Teachers are speaking out about their salaries, saying they are not high enough to cover the cost of necessities like housing and food, which are on the rise due to inflation (the rate of increase in the cost of goods and services).



The boots, left, and new sandals



Milan, Italy Frog wellies return

In the UK in the 1980s, green wellies (rain boots) with a frog's face were a common sight. Now the design is having a comeback thanks to the fashion label JW Anderson. The label approached the maker of the wellies, Wellipets, which agreed to work with them. JW Anderson has now also produced a slip-on sandal with the familiar frog design. They premiered at fashion week in Milan, Italy, in January.



A protest in Cusco



Lima, Peru State of emergency extended

Peru's government extended a state of emergency in the capital city of Lima and two regions following violent protests. The order suspends several rights, like freedom of movement. Protests began in December after former president Pedro Castillo, who was accused of dishonest behavior, was ousted and Dina Boluarte replaced him. Protesters want Castillo to return as president.



France Protests over retirement age

On January 19, more than one million people protested the French government's plans to change the country's retirement age. People in France can currently retire (stop working) at age 62, but President Macron wants to raise the retirement age to 64. Workers walked off their jobs in protest, causing major disruptions in transportation.



Demonstrators in Paris



Brasília, Brazil Charges made

The first group of rioters who attacked government buildings in the nation's capital on January 8 have been charged with the attacks. The riots were in support of Jair Bolsonaro, who lost the presidential election in October 2022 to Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. On January 22, the new president fired the head of the army, General Julio Cesar de Arruda, after reports surfaced that he had helped people who took part in the attacks.



Government buildings were attacked.

SETTHASIRI CHANJARATPONG/MUVM; GETTY IMAGES (4); ALAMY (3); WELLIPETS; REUTERS



A market in Yakutsk



Yakutsk, Russia World's coldest city gets colder

Residents of the coldest city on Earth have had a particularly cold winter, with temperatures falling to nearly -81°F , the coldest in more than two decades. Nurgusun Starostina, a fish seller, told Reuters that the trick to staying warm is to dress "in layers, like a cabbage." Yakutsk is in Siberia, near the Arctic Circle, and has 340,000 residents.



Fewer babies are being born in China.



China Population shrinks

The population of China, the world's most populous country, declined for the first time since the 1960s. In 2022, China's population was 1.4 billion, down by about 850,000 people from 2021. China had a policy from 1980 to 2015 that restricted couples to no more than one child, and the number of births has declined in the past decade. Experts fear an aging population could harm the economy with fewer people to join the workforce.

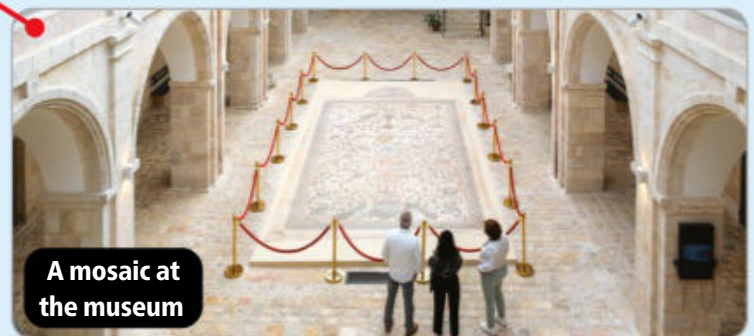


Electric tuk-tuks



Thailand Tuk-tuks go green

The number of electric tuk-tuks (a kind of three-wheeled vehicle) has increased in Thailand, a country battling high air pollution. In 2022, the number of electric tuk-tuks rose from 263 to 498, with plans to introduce more. However, there are still 20,000 tuk-tuks that run on gas. Experts welcome the energy-efficient alternative but point out that the electric vehicles still rely on the power grid, not renewable energy, to recharge.



A mosaic at the museum



Jerusalem, Israel New museum of Armenian history

A building that once sheltered Armenian children has reopened as a museum. The Mardigian Museum explains the Armenian genocide (the deliberate attempt to destroy a specific group of people) of 1915–1916, when 1.5 million Armenians were killed. The museum's director said it is "a passport for people to know about the Armenians" and their part of Jerusalem history.



South Africa Ducks on patrol

In the town of Stellenbosch, vineyards are relying on ducks to protect their grapes. One wine-making estate keeps a flock of about 500 Indian runner ducks. They begin each day eating the snails and bugs that pose a threat to the grapevines that trail across the countryside. Not only are the ducks a natural form of pest control, but they're also attracting curious visitors who want to see them.



Some of the ducks



The big debate

Should we stop eating Maine lobster?

People say lobster fishing harms whales, but is boycotting them the answer?

What you need to know

- The Maine lobster industry is one of the oldest continuous businesses in the US, dating back to the 1600s.
- More than 100 million pounds of lobster are harvested in Maine each year, making up 80% of the lobster eaten in the US.
- Some people say critically endangered North Atlantic right whales are caught in Maine lobster traps, nets, and ropes and struck by fishing boats.
- Fewer than 350 of the whales are believed to exist in the wild.



In September 2022, Seafood Watch, a program at the Monterey Bay Aquarium in California, advised US consumers to stop eating lobster caught in Maine. The program rates seafood by how much its producers protect or harm the ocean. The aquarium said equipment used in the Maine lobster industry is injuring and killing North Atlantic right whales, which are at risk of dying out. As a result, big grocery chains and restaurants stopped selling Maine lobster and people began boycotting it. But the Maine lobster industry said it has made gear safer and its fishing practices don't harm whales. What do you think? Should we stop eating Maine lobster?

Yes—protecting whales comes first

Is a good meal worth an animal going extinct? Research shows that more than 85% of right whales have been caught in fishing gear, which is their leading cause of injury or death. They also get hit by lobster boats and other fishing vessels. There are 900,000 fishing lines in the water in Maine, making it a very dangerous place for the whales, but it isn't the only place to catch lobster. The industry should shift to catching them in the waters of the Caribbean, Florida, and the West Coast of the US. Lobster may be big business in Maine, but many other industries, including technology, lumber, and tourism, bring in as much or more.

No—that's not the right answer

The Maine lobster industry works hard to protect North Atlantic right whales, and very few are harmed in Maine's waters. Fishers are using fewer ropes, as well as equipment that has no ropes or that's easier for whales to escape from, and they'll keep trying new things. The industry brings in \$1 billion a year, and thousands of people rely on it for their livelihoods. Boycotting Maine lobster would put their jobs and families at risk. And lobster has been part of Maine's cultural identity for generations. The state has a famous lobster roll sandwich, lobster festivals, and even lobster license plates. It wouldn't be right to take that away.

YES Three reasons why we should stop eating Maine lobster

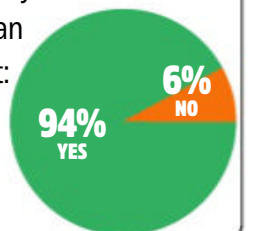
- 1 Equipment used in the lobster industry is harming North Atlantic right whales, which are critically endangered.
- 2 Lobster can be caught in other places, like the Caribbean, where North Atlantic right whales won't be at risk.
- 3 Lobster is big business in Maine, but the state has many other industries too.

NO Three reasons why we should not stop eating Maine lobster

- 1 Few whales are harmed in Maine's waters because the lobster industry takes steps to protect them.
- 2 The Maine lobster industry employs thousands of workers whose livelihoods would be at risk.
- 3 Maine is famous for lobsters and wouldn't be the same without them.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

Last week, we asked if kids should get to stay up late for special events. Most of you would rather miss sleep than a big moment: 94% said yes, while only 6% said no.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, visit kids.theweekjunior.com/polls so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think we should stop eating Maine lobster or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Sharing life lessons

Senator Raphael Warnock's upbringing inspired his new book for kids.

When Rev. Raphael Warnock won his election in 2021, he became the first Black person from Georgia to be elected to the US Senate (one half of Congress). His new picture book, illustrated by TeMika Grooms, *Put Your Shoes on and Get Ready*, tells his life story, from growing up to making history in Washington, DC.

The senator told *The Week Junior* he was inspired by the words of his father, a pastor and World War II veteran. Every morning, his dad would wake up Warnock and his siblings with, "Put your shoes on and get ready." To Warnock, that meant stepping into your purpose, as "we all have a unique and particular role to play in the world."

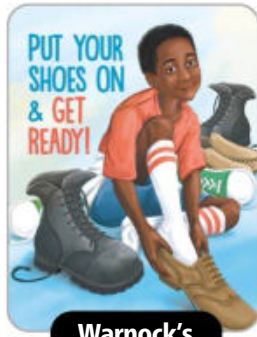
Warnock, age 53, grew up in Georgia, the 11th of 12 siblings. He is a Democratic senator and pastor at Ebenezer Baptist

Church, in Atlanta, where Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a pastor and worked with Warnock's father.

"Running for political office, you have to introduce yourself to the people you're hoping will elect you," said the senator. In sharing his story, he talked about lessons his parents taught him. "I decided that I wanted to share those lessons with other children."

His father's phrase and the book both refer to putting your shoes on to do the work you're supposed to do. "Life is about finding that thing that gives us joy, the way in which we can contribute to the rest of society, no matter how small," he said.

Warnock shared with *The Week Junior* the shoes he feels most confident in—hard-bottom wingtip dress shoes, which he wears while standing on the Senate floor.



Warnock's new book



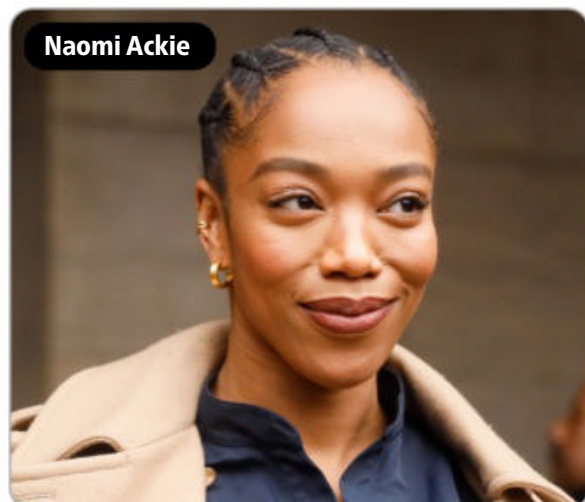
Raphael Warnock

HISTORIC SEAT

The first Black US senator was Hiram Rhodes Revels, a Republican from Mississippi, who served from 1870–1871.

Actress on the rise

British actress Naomi Ackie has been nominated for the Rising Star award at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) ceremony on February 19. The BAFTAs are the top awards in the UK's entertainment industry. Ackie, age 31, is nominated for her role as American singer and icon Whitney Houston in the 2022 film about her life, *Whitney Houston: I Wanna Dance With Somebody*. Previous Rising Star winners include Tom Holland, who plays *Spider-Man* in the Marvel films, and Lashana Lynch, who starred in *Matilda the Musical*.



Naomi Ackie

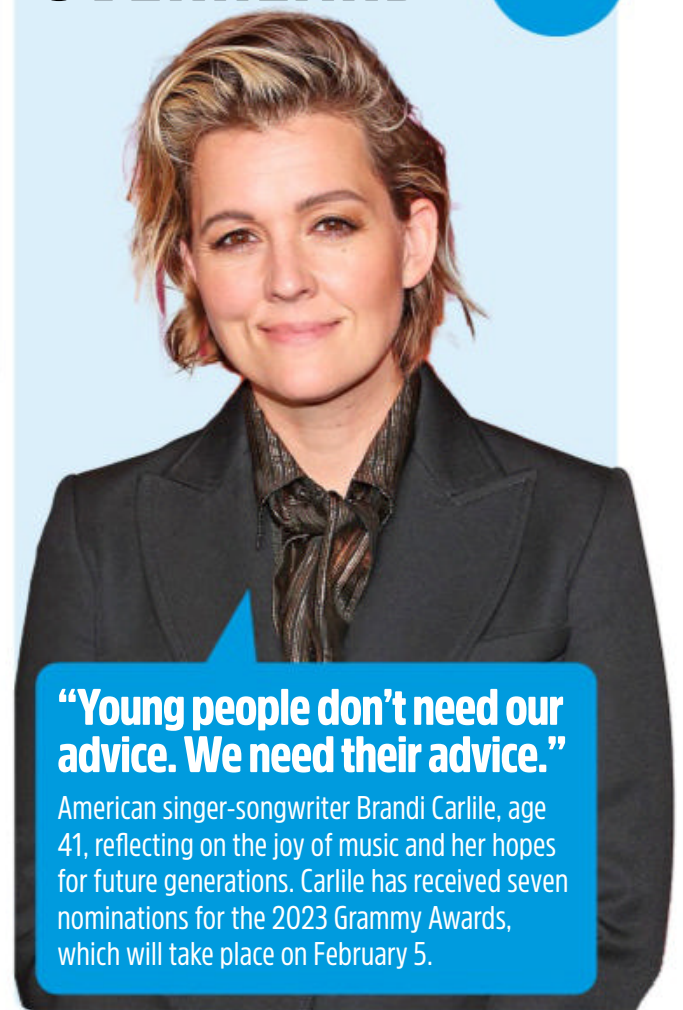


Alexei Ratmanský

Dancer's next move

Choreographer and former ballet dancer Alexei Ratmanský will join the New York City Ballet (NYCB) as artist-in-residence this August. The change comes after 13 years with the American Ballet Theatre. Ratmanský, age 54, is seen as one of the most important figures in ballet today. Last April, Ratmanský, who was raised in Ukraine, choreographed a ballet starring Ukrainian refugees amid Russia's war in his home country. Under his five-year contract with the NYCB, he will create productions for the honored dance company, which celebrates its 75th anniversary this year.

OVERHEARD



"Young people don't need our advice. We need their advice."

American singer-songwriter Brandi Carlile, age 41, reflecting on the joy of music and her hopes for future generations. Carlile has received seven nominations for the 2023 Grammy Awards, which will take place on February 5.



Animals and the environment

DID YOU KNOW?

There are many different types of parasites, including animals, bacteria, fungi, plants, and viruses.



A gray wolf in Yellowstone National Park

Positives of parasites

Not all parasites are bad to have around. For example, tapeworms and roundworms can actually boost a person's immune system and reduce the effects of allergies. Some farmers release parasitoid wasps (parasitoids are insects that act like parasites) because they kill aphids (insects that destroy food crops).



A parasitoid wasp

Parasites can control wolves' behavior

A new study has revealed that wolves infected by a particular parasite change their behavior, increasing their chances of becoming a pack leader. A parasite is a living thing that lives in or on another living thing (a "host") and takes its nourishment from its host.

The parasite that infected the wolves is known as *Toxoplasma gondii*, which can infect any warm-blooded animal but can reproduce only in cats. Scientists already knew that it could influence some mammals' behavior. One previous study showed that chimpanzees infected with the parasite became attracted to leopard urine, making

them more likely to get too close to the cats and be eaten by one. This would then put the parasite back inside the leopard, where the parasite is able to reproduce.



Cougars are large wildcats.

The recent study observed gray wolves in Yellowstone National Park over 26 years. Cougars (a type of big cat) live on nearby territory, and some carry *Toxoplasma gondii*. Wolves can pick up the parasite by eating infected animals or their poop. Wolves don't usually eat cougars. But wolves that were infected with *Toxoplasma gondii* were more likely to venture closer to cougars, increasing the chance that they would eat dead cougars or cougar poop.

The study found that infected wolves were far more likely to leave their pack and head into new territory. Wolves with the parasite were also 46 times more likely to become the leader of their pack than uninfected wolves. The researchers think that the parasite can make wolves produce more of a hormone (chemical in the body) called testosterone. This hormone makes animals more likely to take risks and be aggressive, which increases the chance that they will become pack leaders and lead their pack into cougar territory—where other wolves in the pack can get infected in turn.

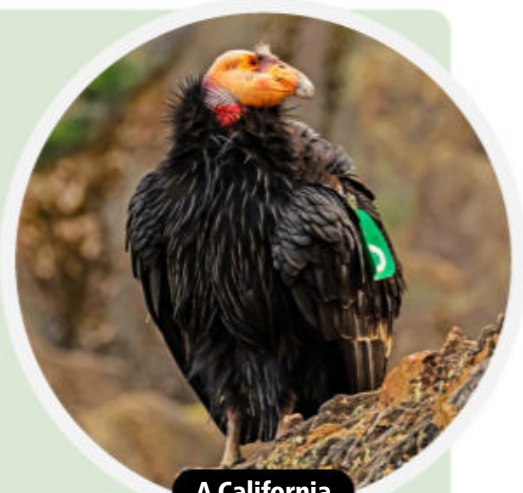
The researchers say that the tiny parasite's ability to control the behavior of those it infects—including wolves—means that it could have a huge influence on whole ecosystems (communities of living things) on Earth.



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Pinnacles National Park, California

This park in central California spreads across 26,000 acres and was designated a national park in 2013. Once an ancient volcanic field, its craggy mountaintops, dramatic spires, and caves were formed due to millions of years of volcanic activity. The San Andreas fault zone—one of the world's major fault zones (where two tectonic plates meet, potentially causing earthquakes)—runs close to the park's eastern side. The landscape can be explored through more than 30 miles of trails. Pinnacles is home to California condors and other rare animal species such as the California red-legged frog.



A California condor



BODY LANGUAGE

When rats are happy, their ears droop down and become pinker.



A rat can groove to Mozart or Lady Gaga.

Rats bop their heads to the beat

Rats may not be known for their dance moves, but researchers believe they move their heads in time to music. This is called synchronization—the ability to recognize the beat of a song.

Scientists at the University of Tokyo in Japan played several songs for rats and humans in a lab, including Mozart's "Sonata for Two Pianos in D Major" and Lady Gaga's "Born This Way." They played the songs at faster and slower tempos. Humans usually start toe-tapping at 120 to 140 beats per minute.

The researchers thought the rats would prefer a faster tempo to get their heads bopping. Using tiny head-mounted technology, the researchers captured the rats' head movements. The most intense rat head bops occurred at 132 beats per minute, similar to the speed of the humans participating in the study.

The results suggest that rats' brains are wired to respond to rhythm. Researchers next want to see how other elements of music, like harmony and melody, appeal to rodents and other animals.

Animal of the Week

Gloomy octopus



The gloomy octopus appears to "throw" objects at its neighbors. New research has observed the animal gathering up material, like silt, and then pumping water from its body to push it toward other gloomy octopuses. This is a rare trait.

- **LIFE SPAN:** 11 months on average
- **HABITAT:** Reefs off the coast of Australia
- **SIZE:** Including arm span, up to 6 feet
- **DIET:** May include crabs, snails, and each other
- **FUN FACT:** A gloomy octopus can change its skin color and shape to look like seaweed.

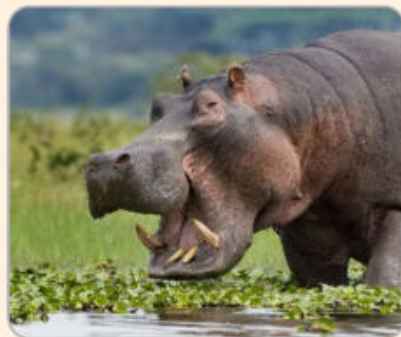


Good week / Bad week



Honeybees

The US has approved a vaccine (medicine that prevents an illness) to protect honeybees from deadly bacteria that have threatened their numbers. It's the world's first vaccine for the bees, which play an important role in helping food grow.



Hippopotamuses

The population of common hippopotamuses in Ghana's Bui National Park declined from an estimated 209 hippos to 64 after a dam was built there. The construction destroyed some of their habitat and made them more vulnerable to hunting.



"How fast can penguins swim?"

Aruna, 9, Michigan

Jamie Toste
Curator,
Minnesota Zoo

Penguins can swim fast—some even faster than Olympic champion Michael Phelps! Most penguins swim at about 4 to 7 miles per hour (mph). By contrast, Phelps can swim 6 mph. The gentoo is believed to be the fastest-swimming penguin, sometimes managing 22 mph.

A gentoo penguin



Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about Minnesota Zoo at mnzoo.org.

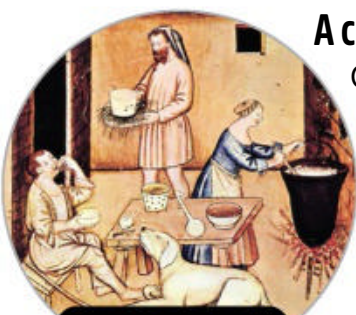


All about cheese

A delicious bite of

Cheese is enjoyed all over the world, and it likely started with sheep.

Cheese is popular on sandwiches, on pizza, and all on its own. Where did this delectable dairy food come from?



Making cheese in medieval times

A cheesy history

Cheese making dates back about 8,000 to 10,000 years. No one knows who made the first cheese, but it is believed that cheese making began when humans started taking milk from

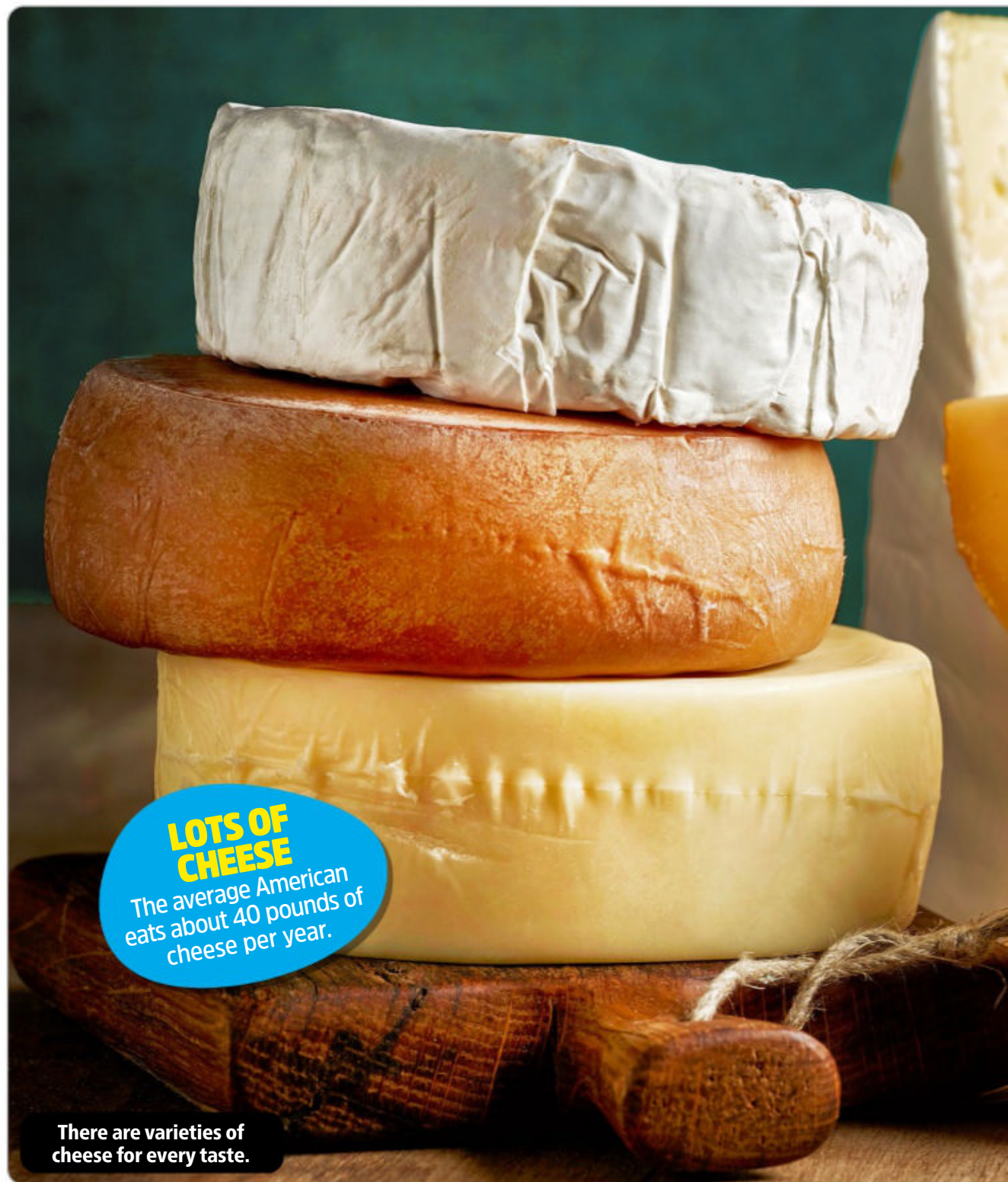
sheep. (Cheese is made from milk—primarily the curd, the substance that forms when milk curdles.) Ancient Greeks and Romans made cheese, as did northern Europeans. By the Roman Empire (625 BCE to its fall in 476 CE), hundreds of cheeses were being made across Europe.



Ohio was called "Cheesedom."

A delicacy comes to America

When Pilgrims came to America in 1620, they packed cheese with them. In the early years of the US, the states of Rhode Island, Connecticut, and Massachusetts were the biggest cheese producers. After the Revolutionary War, New York took over as the top producer of cheese in the US. As settlers moved West, so did cheese making, and Ohio was given the nickname "Cheesedom," challenging New York as the nation's leading cheese producer. By the mid-1800s, though, Wisconsin had taken the top spot. Wisconsin's first Farmstead Cheese Factory was formed in 1846 and run by women.



LOTS OF CHEESE

The average American eats about 40 pounds of cheese per year.

There are varieties of cheese for every taste.

Cheese records around the world

Cheese lovers across the globe have accomplished some incredible feats. Here are a few of the cheesiest achievements recorded in history.



Largest cheese

A community in Italy came together in 2020 to prepare the world's largest block of cheese. The round block of Pecorino cheese weighed 1,319 pounds and used more than 1,188 gallons of sheep's milk. The block was cut up into slices that sold for about \$5 each.





food history

TOP PICK
Cheddar cheese is America's favorite cheese, according to a recent study.

WOW!
There are more than 2,000 types of cheese produced around the world.



A cheese factory in Wisconsin

The growth of cheese in the US

In the late 1800s, the demand for cheese increased dramatically across the US. In 1903, Canadian-American inventor James Kraft created "American cheese," which was processed and packaged in a way to be consistent in size and shape. By 1920, the US was producing 418 million pounds of cheese per year. By the 1970s, that number grew to 2.2 billion pounds. Around this time, Americans expanded their tastes to embrace goat cheese and other artisanal types. Wisconsin still leads the dairy industry, with more skilled and licensed cheesemakers than in any other state, followed by California and Idaho. Today, 5 billion pounds of cheese is eaten in the US each year.



Taking a sample of blue cheese

Cheese in its many forms

The US is the world's second-largest cheese producer, behind the European Union (a group of 27 nations, mostly in Europe). According to the US dairy industry, there are eight official varieties of cheese: blue (moldy cheese, like blue cheese and Gorgonzola), hard (good to grate, like Parmesan), pasta filata (stretchy cheese, like mozzarella), processed cheese (containing chemicals that keep it from spoiling, like American cheese), semi-hard (like Cheddar and Colby), semi-soft (mild-tasting, like Muenster), soft and free (can spoil quickly, like cottage cheese and cream cheese), and soft-ripened (like Brie and Camembert). There are also non-dairy and lactose-free cheeses, vegan and plant-based cheeses, and nut-based cheeses—practically guaranteeing the right cheese for every fan of this food favorite.

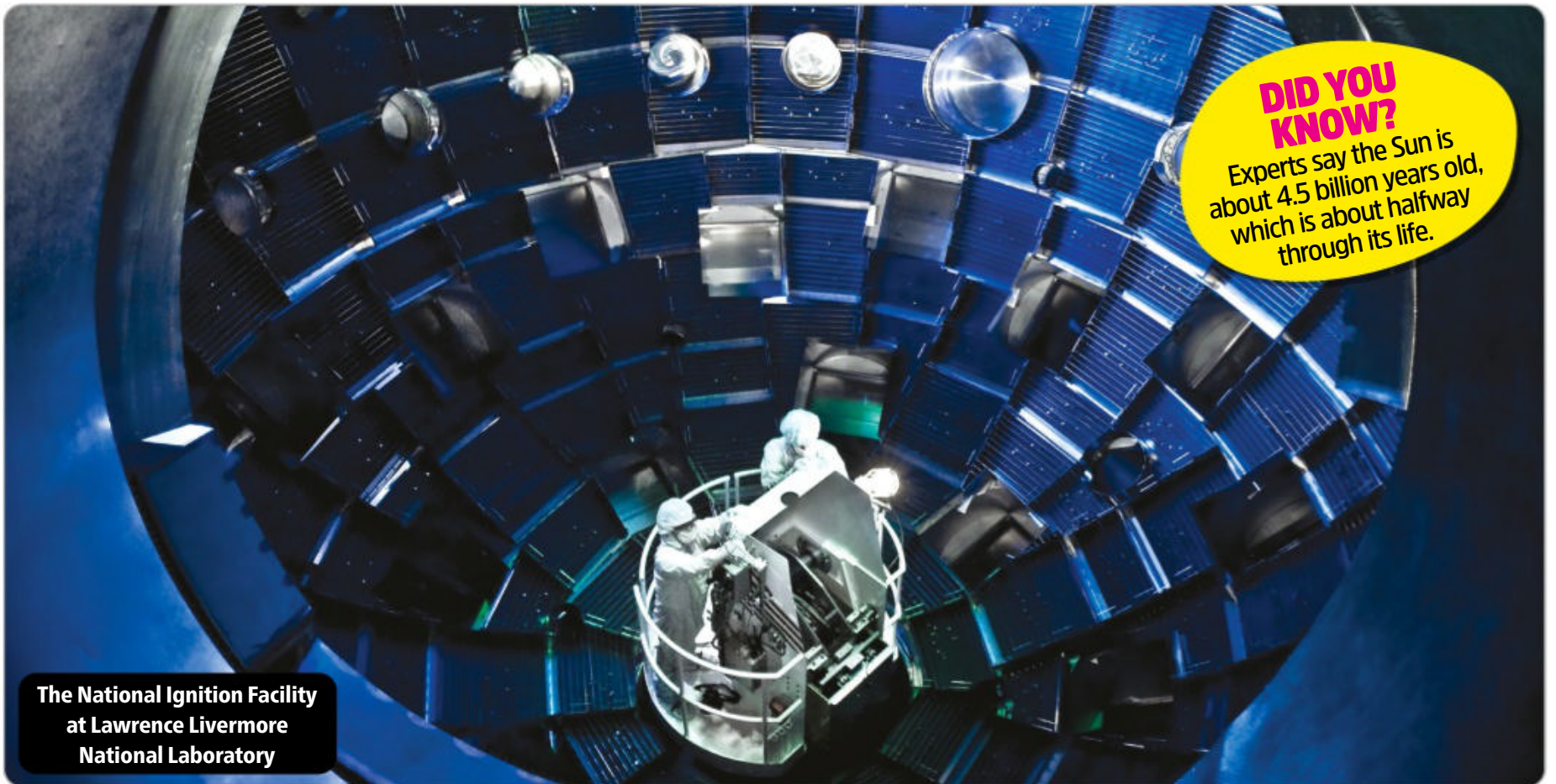
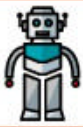
Oldest cheese

The oldest known cheese in the world, from Egypt, dates back about 3,200 years. Scientists found cheese residue in a tomb from the 13th century BCE. (Feasts, including cheese, were sometimes buried with wealthy Egyptians.) Researchers described it as a "solidified white mass."



Most varieties on pizza

In 2021, a team of three French cheese enthusiasts decided to break the world record for the most varieties of cheese on a pizza. They piled it on until they topped the pizza with 834 types of cheese, all made in France. Then they baked it.



DID YOU KNOW?

Experts say the Sun is about 4.5 billion years old, which is about halfway through its life.

The National Ignition Facility at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory

Big breakthrough in green energy

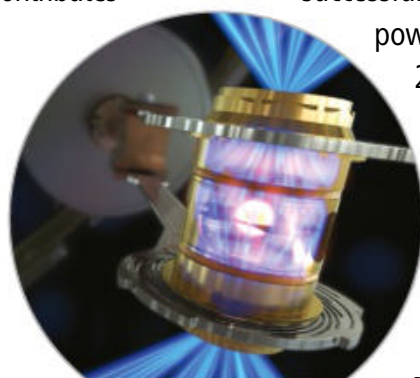
Scientists in California recently made a major breakthrough in a process called nuclear fusion. For the first time in 60 years, they conducted an experiment that produced more energy than it used up, an achievement known as fusion ignition. The research could give humans an almost unlimited source of “clean” energy, which does not release dangerous pollution that contributes to climate change.

Nuclear fusion is the process that powers the Sun and other stars in our universe. It’s called “fusion” because it involves atoms (the building blocks of all matter) fusing (joining) together. In the 1960s, scientists at the Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) thought it might be possible to re-create that process on Earth with lasers (intense light beams).

For decades, LLNL scientists used lasers to heat atoms of hydrogen gas. High heat causes the nuclei (central parts of the atoms) to fuse together and form heavier atoms. As they do this, they release large amounts of energy—but it takes lots of energy to make it happen.

LLNL created the National Ignition Facility (NIF), the world’s largest laser system, which is

the size of three football fields. Its 192 lasers can heat atoms to 180 billion° F, which is more than six times hotter than the Sun’s core. The scientific team experimented with putting a tiny amount of hydrogen into a capsule the size of a peppercorn and aiming the lasers at it. After thousands of tries, the test finally achieved fusion ignition. The successful experiment generated enough power to boil water in about 15 to 20 tea kettles.



The capsule of hydrogen atoms

Kim Budil, the director of LLNL, said it had taken thousands of people to achieve this exciting goal. “The pursuit of fusion ignition in the laboratory is one of the most significant scientific challenges ever tackled by humanity,” she said. “And achieving it is a triumph of science, engineering, and most of all, people.”

There is a lot of work ahead, Budil said. The amount of energy required to power the lasers was still very high, and the cost of the work was about \$3.5 billion. LLNL scientists will keep striving for nuclear fusion that creates even more energy. They hope that one day, that energy could replace fossil fuels, like coal, oil, and gas, which emit dangerous greenhouse gases when burned.

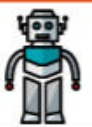
Sea salt batteries



Seawater is full of valuable salt.

Scientists in Australia have built a new battery using sodium-sulfur, a type of salt from seawater. The battery can store four times more energy than a lithium battery and would be inexpensive to make because sea salt is widely available. The team said the new battery is better for the environment than today’s standard batteries that use rare metals, like lithium, which have to be mined from Earth. That process is expensive, uses enormous amounts of water, and creates pollution and waste.

Sea salt batteries have been made before, but this model has the most storage and longest energy life of any built so far. The team will continue to improve the new battery in hopes that it can be sold to consumers.



Rare wave-like clouds spotted in Wyoming

A rare cloud formation that resembled white ocean waves appeared over the crest of the Bighorn Mountains in Wyoming in December. Known as Kelvin-Helmholtz clouds, they're formed when the air in one layer of the atmosphere moves faster than the air in a lower level of the atmosphere, which moves the tops of the clouds.

The term Kelvin-Helmholtz clouds refers to a phenomenon called the Kelvin-Helmholtz instability, named after Scottish scientist Lord Kelvin and German scientist Hermann von Helmholtz. This instability occurs when there is a difference in speed between two surfaces as they are interacting. It happens, for example, when wind

blows over water and creates waves that move slower than the wind.

"Part of the beauty of Kelvin-Helmholtz clouds is that they really show... the fluidity of the atmosphere," Matt Taylor of BBC Weather told BBC News. "Like waves in the ocean, [it]

moves and responds to the environment around it."

Kelvin-Helmholtz clouds, which are more likely to appear on windy days near

sunrise or sunset, have also

been seen in California. The recent formation in Wyoming stunned residents and visitors, who shared many photographs on social media. "This was special," said one woman who posted a photo. "I'm just glad others can enjoy the experience now, too."

NATURE'S BEAUTY

Clouds that looked like waves may have inspired Vincent Van Gogh's famous painting *Starry Night*.



The Kelvin-Helmholtz clouds in Wyoming



Seed pods known as "jumping beans"

How jumping beans find shade

New research sheds light on the pattern in which seed pods known as "jumping beans" move. The pods, from a Mexican shrub, have moth larvae living inside them. The larvae die if they get too hot, so when they feel warm, they start moving inside the seed to try to get to a cooler location—making the pod seem to hop around.

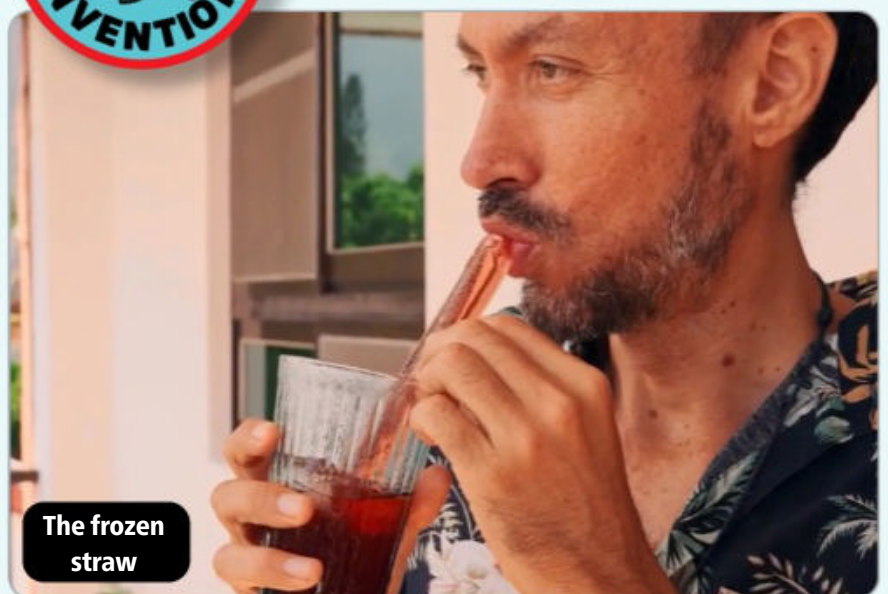
Scientists recently analyzed how the pods move away from sunlight and into shade. The team placed the

pods on a warm surface and studied their movements. They found that, instead of going in a single direction, the "beans" moved in random directions with each jump.

This approach could help the larvae survive, the scientists said, because it means they will explore as much of the area around them until they find shade. This is a better option than heading in a single direction that is not guaranteed to lead them out of the sunlight.



Ice straws that help the planet



The frozen straw

A new type of straw made of ice will help reduce the use of plastic straws while chilling a drink at the same time. The Ice Guys straw is designed to last long enough for someone to finish their drink and doesn't leave any waste behind.

The straw comes in three sizes and is easy to make at home, using a tube-shaped silicone mold. Users fill it with water or other liquids, such as juice or coffee, freeze it for 30 to 45 minutes, and sip away. The straws should be available to consumers this spring.



Photos of the week



Scratch that
"That's the Spot!" by
Richard Flack of South Africa



Majestic stare
"Portrait of Olobor"
by Marina Cano of Spain



RICHARD FLACK; MIQUEL ANGEL ARTUS ILLANA; MARTIN GREGUS; MARINA CANO; JAIME CULEBRAS; BRITTANY CROSSMAN

Photos of the week



Moment of zen
"Among the Flowers"
by Martin Gregus of Canada



Eye spy
"The Frog with
the Ruby Eyes"
by Jaime Culebras
of Spain and
Ecuador



Head on
"Head to Head" by Miquel
Angel Artús Illana of Spain



Friendly foxes
"Fox Affection" by
Brittany Crossman
of Canada



Sports

DID YOU KNOW?

New Zealand is also known as Aotearoa, which means "The Land of the Long White Cloud."



The US Women's National Soccer Team

Teen drafted into NWSL



Alyssa Thompson

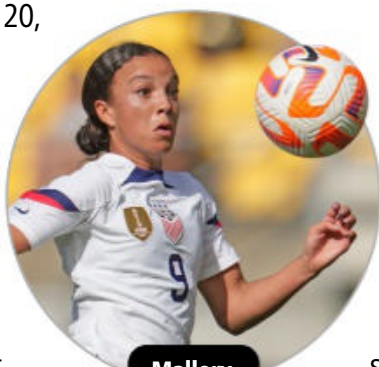
In the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) draft on January 12, the top pick was high school senior and US national team member Alyssa Thompson, age 18. She was selected by Angel City FC, a club based in Los Angeles, California. She is the only high schooler to be drafted first overall in NWSL history.

US women kick off soccer season

The United States Women's National Soccer Team (USWNT) have started their 2023 season. On January 18 and January 20, they played exhibition matches in New Zealand against the country's national team. The US won the first match, 4–0, and the second one, 5–0.

Both teams are preparing for the FIFA World Cup, a major tournament held every four years. It will be hosted by New Zealand and Australia this summer. The US team is seeking its third consecutive World Cup title, and members are currently trying to earn spots on the World Cup roster. The matches gave the players a

chance to compete in the stadiums where the US will play during the World Cup group stage.



Mallory Swanson

The first match was held at Sky Stadium in Wellington. It set an attendance record for a home match played by New Zealand's women's team, nicknamed the Football Ferns. The US team, which had lost three of its last four matches, got off to a slow start and failed to score a goal in the first half. After USWNT Coach Vlatko Andonovski made changes to the lineup during halftime, the team played much better in the second half. American forward Mallory Swanson (she used the last name Pugh before

getting married last year) scored two goals, and forwards Alex Morgan and Lynn Williams came through with the other two in the win.

The second match was at New Zealand's national stadium, Eden Park, in Auckland. American forward Ashley Hatch and midfielder Rose Lavelle scored in the first half. Swanson, Lavelle, and midfielder Taylor Kornieck delivered the rest of the US goals in the second half.

The USWNT is now looking forward to the SheBelieves Cup, a tournament they will be hosting from February 16 to February 22. The other teams participating will be Canada, Brazil, and Japan, who are among the top 11 teams in the world. Matches will be played in Orlando, Florida; Nashville, Tennessee; and Frisco, Texas.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

WORLD CUP SKIING

On January 24, American skier Mikaela Shiffrin made sports history. In San Vigilio di Marebbe, Italy, she won the 83rd World Cup race of her career, setting a new record for the most alpine (downhill) skiing World Cup wins by a woman. World Cup events are part of a circuit of top international competitions. The record had been held by retired American skier Lindsey Vonn. Shiffrin, who won her first alpine World



Mikaela Shiffrin

Cup race in 2012, at age 17, tied Vonn's record on January 8. Shiffrin's 83rd victory came in the giant slalom, which is racing downhill through a course. She finished first in both of her runs. "I don't know what to say right now," she said afterward. On the podium, Shiffrin was given a gold crown along with a medal. The overall record for most World Cup wins is held by Swedish skier Ingemar Stenmark, who won 86. He recently predicted that Shiffrin "will win more than 100 races."



FUN FACT

This season, the NBA has players who come from 40 countries outside the US.

The Chicago Bulls in Paris, France



NBA teams play game in Paris

On January 19, two teams from the National Basketball Association (NBA) played a regular-season game at the Accor Arena in Paris, France, as part of the NBA's Global Games series. The NBA Paris Game 2023 featured the Chicago Bulls and the Detroit Pistons. The Bulls won, 126–108. It was the 119th time an NBA game has been played internationally since 1984 and the sixth time a game has been played in Paris.

The game was extra special for Pistons guard Killian Hayes, who is from France. During one practice, he said he was glad to “get to introduce my culture—the French culture—to my teammates” and also play in front of his family.

The Bulls, who are in 10th place in the NBA Eastern Conference while the Pistons are in last place, got off to a strong start in the game. They

led 31–24 at the end of the first quarter and never looked back. Bulls shooting guard Zach LaVine led in scoring with 30 points, while his teammate Demar Derozan, a small forward, added 26 points. Bulls center Nikola Vucevic was a force on the backboards, grabbing 15 rebounds to go along with 16 points.

Hayes started the game for the Pistons and played 31 minutes. He had four points and eight assists. The Pistons’ top scorer was Bogdan Bogdanovic, who racked up 26 points in the loss.

Many former NBA players and other celebrities were in the stands to watch the game. Among them was French basketball star Victor Wembanyama, age 19. The 7-foot-4 player is expected to be the number one pick in this year’s NBA draft.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Jaeda Daniel

AGE: 23 SPORT: TENNIS

Taking the court I started playing tennis when I was 4. My dad had gotten my sister into it before me, so I was always kind of tagging along. I tried it and really liked it.

Serving success I was on the team at North Carolina State University and won the 2022 college championship in doubles. I graduated last year, and now I’m playing professionally. I played at the US Open last August. I’ve always wanted to compete in the Grand Slams and play with the best.

Role models I grew up watching the Williams sisters, Venus and Serena. They were a huge inspiration to a lot of girls like me. Rafael Nadal is my idol on the men’s side of tennis.

Court challenges I love problem-solving and I think that is what makes tennis fun. You have so many decisions to make in a split second, and you have to make them over and over again in a two- or three-hour match. You also have a different opponent every day who has a different game and strategy. No match is the same.

Winning mindset In tennis, you can lose every week and that’s just the norm. It’s not easy, but you need the matches to get better. I try to look at losses as a stepping stone that will help me down the road somehow, someday.

Easing up I’m used to a fast-paced life, so I really try to focus on taking time to slow down, rest, and do nothing for a little bit. It’s important.

Words of wisdom My mom always told me, “Try to be great at whatever you do.” That’s what I live by. It’s about being committed and to keep going toward your goal.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach’s Name: **Ryan Murphy**

Team: **Dunn Elementary School Cross Country**

“Coach Murphy is always so supportive of us. He runs with us and also has a group of kindergarten runners that my dad helps coach. He has taught us to cheer for our teammates and even encourage other teams. He doesn’t care if I win every race. He just wants me to do my best and have good sportsmanship. He instills important leadership skills in all of us. He is a great coach and we love him very much.” Rutledge, 10, Kentucky



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach’s name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.



DID YOU KNOW?

The Oxford English Dictionary contains more than 600,000 words.



Planet Word

A place to celebrate words

In Washington, DC, a museum honors language and the many different ways people express themselves.

Planet Word, a museum in Washington, DC, is helping visitors understand the power of language. It uses immersive and interactive exhibits to highlight ways words are used.

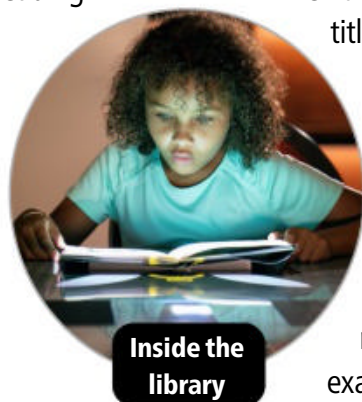
Ann B. Friedman, a former reading teacher, founded Planet Word. It has been open full-time since 2021 and is housed in a historic building known as the Franklin School. "Capturing the attention of kids who may think reading isn't fun, or aren't sure if reading is for them, is the goal

of the museum," Caitlin Miller, Planet Word's manager of education programs, told *The Week Junior*. One big attraction is a magical library where books come to life with sound and video when they are put in certain spots. It has 49 titles, with 25 more coming this spring.

Another popular exhibit at Planet Word is "World Worlds," a room covered with projections of a landscape and a cityscape. Visitors can change the scene by using brushes dipped in virtual paint representing different adjectives. For example, using a brush for "magical" turns

things sparkly, purple, and pink. "It's a way of showing how words are powerful," Miller said. In other areas, visitors can do karaoke to learn about songwriting, practice delivering speeches, and find out more about humor and joke-telling. In a special area called "Lexicon Lane," people can reserve puzzle boxes that can be solved within the clue-filled space.

Miller said she hopes visitors leave feeling inspired and will be "more thoughtful about the words they use." She'd also like them to keep practicing how they use them. "Keep speaking, keep singing, keep telling stories, and keep reading," she said.



Inside the library

More unique museums

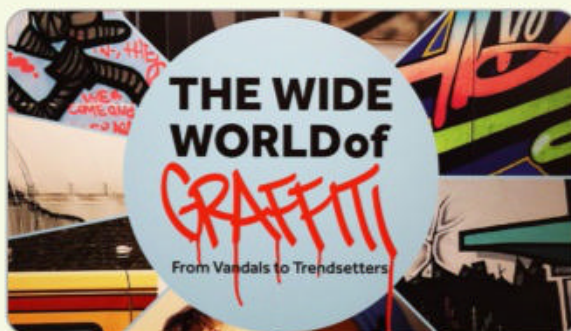


Computer History Museum

Located in Mountain View, California, home to many tech companies, this museum is centered on the past, present, and future of technology. One of the items on display is the biggest computer chip in the world.

Museum of Graffiti

This is the first museum of its kind. Located in Miami, Florida, it is dedicated to preserving and celebrating art made on walls of buildings and honoring the artists behind the creations. It features indoor and outdoor exhibition spaces.



American Visionary Art Museum

Works by artists who are self-taught and inspired by their own creative visions are the focus of this Baltimore, Maryland, institution. One of the pieces in a current exhibition is a gorilla made of aluminum foil.



POPULAR PAGES

Since 2003, more than 12 million *Spiderwick Chronicles* books have been sold worldwide.

Jack Dylan Grazer

Spiderwickseriesunderway

A new live-action series based on the best-selling book series *The Spiderwick Chronicles* by Tony DiTerlizzi and Holly Black is coming to Disney+ later this year. Over the past few months, several actors have been cast in the major parts. The latest actor to join the series is Jack Dylan Grazer, who was the voice of Alberto in the film *Luca* and starred in the movie *Shazam!* and its upcoming sequel. He will voice Thimbletack, a creature that lives in the walls of the Spiderwick Estate.

The Spiderwick Chronicles is a fantasy adventure series that centers on the young Grace siblings: twin brothers Jared and Simon and their older sister, Mallory. When they move to their family's old mansion, they discover a magical and potentially dangerous world of fairies and goblins through their great-great grandfather's notebook. The book series will

celebrate its 20th anniversary in May. A film based on the first book was released in 2008. There is also a spin-off series of books called *Beyond the Spiderwick Chronicles*.

Black and DiTerlizzi are executive producers of the Disney+ series. In a recent interview on the website *Her Campus*, Black said the show can change how people typically think about fairies by introducing them to the types found in old folklore. She described those fairies as "forces of nature" rather than "little girls with wings."

The TV series will likely bring a whole new audience to the *Spiderwick* world. As Black pointed out, things have changed since the books were first published, and the fantasy genre has become mainstream. "It's not considered niche anymore, which is incredibly exciting, not just as a writer of fantasy but also as a fan," she said.



THIS WEEK'S WATCH LIST



Bake Squad (Netflix)

This competition series, hosted by *Master Chef Junior* judge and Milk Bar founder Christina Tosi, is back. In every episode, four bakers will each create a dessert that they hope will be chosen for an event. Prepare for a blue chocolate fountain and an exploding confetti cake.



Chasing Waves (Disney+)

Get an inside look at Japan's surf culture in this new eight-part documentary. It spotlights several of the athletes who are shaping the country's growing impact on the sport. You'll also find out about Japan's diverse regions and more than 18,000 miles of coastline.



Shape Island (Apple TV+)

This new stop-motion animated series is based on best-selling picture books. It features best friends Square, Circle, and Triangle. They each have distinctly different personalities, but they still have a close bond. Each episode follows the trio on a new adventure.



READER RECOMMENDS



Lego Masters Fox and streaming platforms
"On this reality show, teams compete to win a trophy, \$100,000, and the awesome title of Lego Master. In each episode, judges and Brickmasters Amy Corbett and Jamie Berard give the contestants building challenges. Skills, imagination, and time management are all needed to succeed. Host Will Arnett, the voice of Batman in the Lego movies, will keep you laughing with his jokes and funny conversations. As a bonus, Amy and Jamie give Lego tips as you watch, and you can use them to make your own creations." Madison, 10, Minnesota

Do you have a film or TV show to recommend to other kids? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.



DID YOU KNOW?

Animal species that can survive only in caves are called troglobites.



Colossal Cave

Journey into magical caves

Colossal Cave is a new adventure game. It was recently released for the Nintendo Switch, PlayStation systems, Xbox platforms, and the PC. While it can be played as a handheld game, it can also work with a virtual reality headset. It was designed by Roberta Williams, a Hall of Fame video game designer who has made many famous games, such as King's Quest.

Colossal Cave is a reimagining of Colossal Cave Adventure, a text-only computer game from the 1970s that is in the Video Game Hall of Fame. It was created by a programmer who wanted to connect with his daughter. He was inspired by the role-playing game Dungeons & Dragons and the Mammoth Caves in Kentucky, the longest cave system in the world. The system includes a real place named Colossal Cave.



The original game's story involved a magical realm of wizards, elves, and dragons. As players read the story on their computer screens and typed in action commands in response to passages, the story would unfold. In the 2023 version, gamers hunt for treasure in a similar world, but there is a narrator, 3D graphics, and music. On the cave's dark, tricky paths, players encounter puzzles, trolls that block bridges, thieving pirates, and more.

The game is non-linear, so players can wander around as they please. However, just like the text-only game, the new one was designed to be turn-based, so it counts the number of moves a player makes. Williams is eager for players to experience the new spin on the original. She said, "It's historical, it's iconic, it's classic, and it shouldn't be forgotten."



PODCAST OF THE WEEK

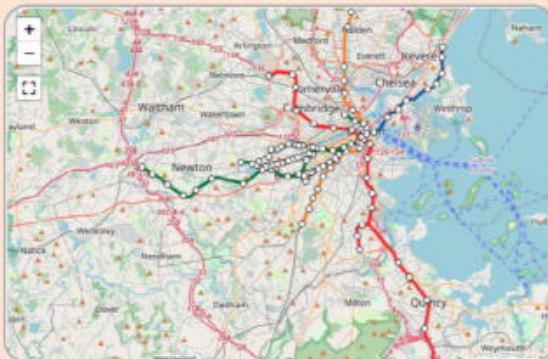
NICKI FIX'S TIME MIX

Apple Podcasts, iHeartRadio Spotify

This scripted series follows Nicki, a teen musician with dreams of stardom. After the local roller rink where she performs gets sold, she and two friends are transported back in time to 1996 and given a chance to save the rink. Will Nicki use it as an opportunity to seek fame and fortune instead?



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK



METRO LINE MAP

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-Metro

If you are fascinated by trains, visit this website to check out the official routes for dozens of systems in cities around the world, including the New York City subway, the Paris Metro in France, and the Cairo Metro in Egypt. You can also learn facts about each system.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

BUNNY THE "TALKING" DOG

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-TalkingDog

Meet a dog named Bunny, a sheepadoodle who is famous for the way she communicates with her owner. Bunny has learned to press a collection of buttons on the floor that play recorded words, such as "walk," "friend," and "poop." Experts have been studying her behavior, which is amazing to watch.





BOOK OF THE WEEK

The Infinite Questions of Dottie Bing

By Molly B. Burnham,
illustrations by Fanny Liem
(Dial Books for Young Readers)

Dottie greatly misses her grandma Ima, who died two months ago. When Dottie remembers that her grandma once told her that she had wanted to play in a treehouse when she was growing up, Dottie decides to build a treehouse in her yard. She and her best friend Sam find a pile of free wood and begin building the treehouse on her front lawn. They would've built it by her bedroom window, but they don't want to disturb Dottie's grandpa, who is staying in her room. A few surprise helpers pitch in to get the job done. The "truth or fake" game that Dottie and her friends play is funny. The chapters are short, and the chapter titles are in the form of a question.

WIN A BOOK!

We're giving away five copies of Molly B. Burnham's new book.

For a chance to win, send your name and address to contests@theweekjunior.com with Dottie Bing in the subject line. Enter by midnight on February 17. See theweekjunior.com/terms for complete rules.



ASK THE AUTHOR

Molly B. Burnham

We spoke to the author of this week's featured book.

Did you have a treehouse as a child?

I didn't have a treehouse, but I had a friend who had a terrific one in her backyard, and I loved it so much.



What's a personality trait you're proud of?

I like that I asked a lot of questions growing up, and I continue to ask a lot of questions.

What books did you enjoy growing up?

Judy Blume's books. I actually wrote a letter to Judy Blume because I loved her writing.

Favorite winter activity?

I think that sledding down a hill is pretty much just the most fun.



4 mystery books that include snowmen

Packed with thrills and chills, these tales will keep you guessing until the end.



The Case of the Sneaky Snowman

By Carolyn Keene, illustrated by Macky Pamintuan

(Aladdin)

In this fifth book of a popular series, Nancy and her friends build a snowman and name him Sherlock. When they go for hot chocolate, Sherlock disappears. What happened to him? The friends try to crack the case. Ages 6–10



Peter Powers and the Sinister Snowman Showdown!

By Kent Clark and Brandon T. Snider, illustrated by Dave Bardin

(Little, Brown Books for Young Readers)

Peter's mom calls him "her little snowman" because he can freeze items. When Peter's dad disappears and items around town go missing, Peter and his friends team up against an army of evil snowmen. Will they succeed? Ages 6–10



Goosebumps: The Abominable Snowman of Pasadena

By R.L. Stine

(Scholastic Paperbacks)

Jordan is excited that he and his sister can go with his dad to take photos of a mysterious creature in Alaska. They are having a great time until they find a scary-looking snowman encased in ice. This creepy story, the 38th in the series, has lots of twists and turns. Ages 8–12



The Sleepwalking Snowman

By Andres Miedoso, illustrated by Víctor Rivas

(Little Simon)

Carter builds an epic snowman in his backyard. The next morning, the snowman is in his neighbor's yard. Soon it disappears altogether. In this seventh book in a series, the Ghost Patrol team comes together to figure out what's going on with the snowman. Ages 6–9

READER RECOMMENDS

Saving Wonder By Mary Knight

"Curley lives with his Papaw on a mountain. His parents and little brother died in a coal mining accident. Papaw gives Curley a new word every week and they have to use that word as much as they can. Then a new owner buys the coal mining company and threatens to cut down the mountain. Curley's friend Jules is also spending less time with him. Join Curley as he works out his problems!" Josie, 9, Colorado

Do you have a book to recommend? Send your review to hello@theweekjunior.com.





How to...



DID YOU KNOW?

Drawing out a fact or idea, instead of simply writing it down, can help you remember it, research has shown.

Prepare for a test

These strategies can help you feel confident about demonstrating your knowledge.

In your school, tests or quizzes may be a part of your regular classroom work. Many teachers use tests to ensure that students have accurately learned the material that's been studied. If taking a test makes you feel worried, the good news is that there are many easy ways for you to prepare and feel better before the exam or quiz. Here's how to get started.

Be organized

Studying for a test will be easier if you organize your notes, handouts, and assignments ahead of time for each of your classes. This way, the information will be there for you when you need to review it. Consider using a separate folder or binder for each subject. You can keep them at home, at school, or in your backpack.

Make a plan

Once you have a test date, ask an adult to help you look at a calendar and make a plan for when you'll study. This might mean committing to studying for 30 minutes for a few afternoons the week before the test. Or maybe you have more time on the weekends and want to plan extra study time then. No matter what you decide, block out the time on your calendar so you remember.

Focus on the right material

If you have learned a lot of material, such as in science class, ask your teacher what information will be on the test. If your teacher hands out a study

guide, use that guide to help you figure out what information you need to focus on most. Next, decide how you want to review the material. Besides reviewing your notes (see box at right), you could write key concepts on flash cards to test yourself. Write the question on one side of the note card and the answer on the other. If there is some information in your notes or in the study guide that is confusing to you, highlight that part and ask your teacher for clarification when you get to class.

Use smart strategies

As the day of the test approaches, be sure to get plenty of sleep the night before and eat a healthy breakfast on the test day.

You don't want to be distracted by hunger pangs during the test! When you sit down to take the exam, give yourself a few minutes to review the entire test. You can start by answering the first question, but you can also consider working on questions in a later section that you find easier to answer. For multiple-choice questions, cross off answers that you know are incorrect. If you still have more than one answer left, move on to the next question. The correct answer may come to you later. Finally, if you finish the test before class ends, instead of turning your test in right away, go back and review all your answers to check for any mistakes. You've got this!

Take your time.

4 ways to take good notes

The notes you write in class are an important resource to have for studying. Here's how to take better ones.

Focus on main ideas

Don't worry about writing down every single thing your teacher says.

Instead, focus on the main points of the lesson, including key words, phrases, and summaries.



Add color and symbols

You can use a highlighter to go over any notes

that cover the most important points your teacher made. If there are words or concepts you want to know more about, circle them and follow up later.



Get clarification

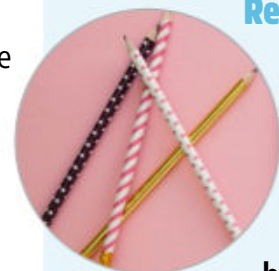
If you're worried that you missed a point, ask your teacher to repeat it. Or put a star or sticky note next to that information and ask about it later.



Redo as needed

If you feel your notes are messy or could be organized better, rewrite

them in a notebook or type them up on a computer. Rewriting can help you retain information better, too.





SWAP SOUP WITH FRIENDS

Many people enjoy the cozy feeling of making and eating soup in the winter. One way to try several different kinds of soup is to have an exchange with friends. Here's how to do it.

- 1. Invite friends.** To start, ask a grown-up if you can invite a few friends or families over to swap soup. Choose a day and time, and ask each person to bring a large container of homemade soup, as well as copies of the recipe.
- 2. Do a taste test.** At the swap, have an adult help you heat up the soups. Pass out small bowls and spoons to guests, and ladle a little soup into their bowls for taste tests. To reduce waste, ask everyone to rinse their bowl and spoon in between servings.
- 3. Choose a soup.** Once everyone has tasted the soups, it's time to trade. You can do this a couple of ways: Each participant can choose a single container of soup to bring home, or you can pass out small containers for people to fill with different options.



Make cards with eraser stamps

What you need

- Shapes to trace, like coins, small blocks, and board game pieces (optional)
- White erasers
- Ruler (optional)
- Pencil
- Scissors and/or craft knife (with adult supervision)
- Different-color ink pads
- Blank cards
- Pencil with a new eraser
- Cotton swabs
- Markers, string, and glue (optional)

Instructions

- 1.** Decide on some basic shapes to create, such as circles, squares, triangles, rectangles, half circles, and thin rectangles (for stripes and lines).
- 2.** Use the items you've collected to trace shapes onto the white erasers or draw your shapes freehand onto the erasers.
- 3.** Cut out the eraser shapes with scissors. These are your stamps!
- 4.** Press an eraser shape onto an ink pad a few times, making sure the eraser is evenly inked. Then press the inked side of the eraser firmly onto a card.
- 5.** To add dot decorations, press a small eraser top of a pencil into the ink pad and then stamp it onto your card.
- 6.** You can use eraser shapes you cut out to make patterns or to create animals, food, balloons, flowers, faces, or anything you would like on your card. Experiment with layering shapes and interesting compositions.
- 7.** Cut one tip off a cotton swab and use the cut end to stamp tiny dots, such as for eyes or cactus needles, onto your card.
- 8.** Add thin lines to your card by drawing them on with a marker or gluing on thin string.
- 9.** At any time, if you'd like to change colors, wipe your stamp clean with a damp paper towel. Dry it off and then press it into a new ink color.



ECO TIP OF THE WEEK

GET TO KNOW YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

If there's a new book you'd like to read, go to your town or school library to see if you can borrow a copy before you buy one. Checking out library books is good for the Earth because you are helping to reduce the natural resources required to make new items. Using the library also helps reduce waste. Once you are finished reading a book, many other people can borrow it instead of purchasing their own copies. You may also discover that the library offers a wider variety of items and activities than you realized, such as puzzles to check out or book clubs to attend. Or you may just find the library to be a relaxing place to read and discover new books!





Keyword crossword

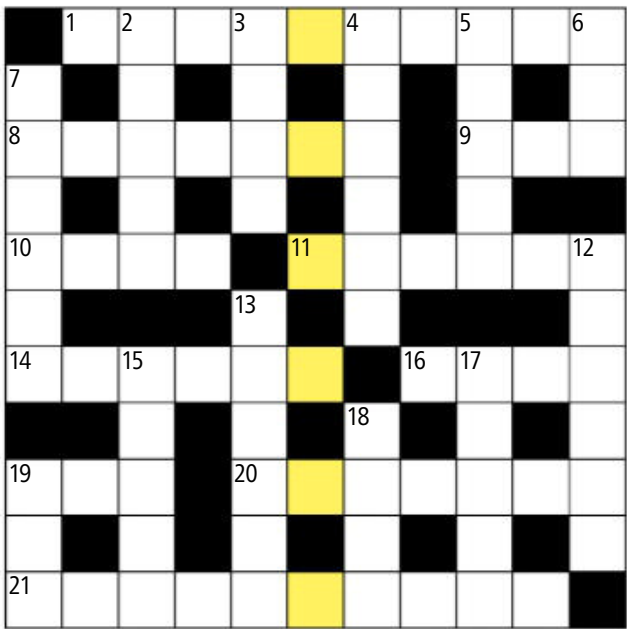
Once you have completed the crossword, transfer the letters in the yellow boxes, in order, into the boxes below to get the answer to the Keyword question. (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

ACROSS

- 1 Tool for an artist like Rembrandt, Monet, or Picasso
8 Scary fish found in the Amazon
9 Household pet treasured by the ancient Egyptians
10 Large birds that might roost in barns
11 For some, the favorite part of the school day
14 Illustration on an arm, for example
16 Sound effect heard inside a cave
19 Convertible, taxi, or limo
20 It helps your body fight a disease before you get sick
21 A walking person on a caution sign

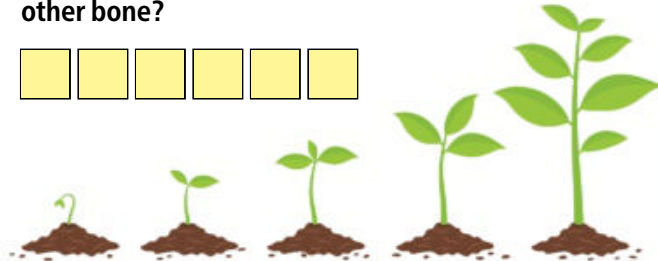
DOWN

- 2 Month whose first day is devoted to playing pranks
3 Number of innings in a baseball game
4 Dam-building animal
5 ___ Sam (figure who represents the US)
6 Item used for sorting Hogwarts students
7 Begin to grow, like a new plant from a seed
12 Dirt digger or snow remover
13 Dogs are descendants of these
15 How you might feel after a long, busy day
17 Country with the largest population
18 Villainous lion in The Lion King
19 Lid on a soda bottle



Keyword question: What part of the human body contains the only bone that is not connected to any other bone?

Grid for keyword answer



CODE CRACKER

In this coded list of zodiac signs, every letter has been replaced with a substitute. The same substitutions are used throughout the list. Hint: Every X here is an uncoded O. Use the letter patterns you find to crack the code.

Coded list of zodiac signs: T D L W K L, W V T F D W X F B, L W X F T D X

ANSWERS CAN BE FOUND ON PAGE 29.

THREE FOR ALL

Sort this list into three familiar three-part phrases, like THREE-RING CIRCUS or SALT LAKE CITY.

PLATE SUPER PIZZA LICENSE CHAMPS
DISH PERSONALIZED BOWL DEEP

Cutting room

Divide this grid into five sections so each section consists of five adjacent boxes containing the numbers 1-5. The sections may have different shapes.

Grid with numbers 1-5 for cutting room puzzle

Spot the difference

These two pictures of cheese appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





Dressed for best in show

A fabulous four-legged fashionista

A chihuahua named Lindy was feeling stressed after being isolated during the Covid-19 pandemic. But with help from her owner, Mandy Corbett, Lindy found a unique way to deal with the stress: dressing up in fancy gowns and entering dog beauty pageants. Corbett used her sewing machine to craft elaborate outfits for the stylish pup. After just one year of competing, Lindy has racked up a paw-ful of prizes and has made a "complete turnaround," according to Corbett. Now, Corbett said, "she walks confidently."

Vacuum on vacation

It's not easy being Henry Hoover. He spends his life being dragged along carpets, pushed under sofas, and poked into dusty corners. So Jonny Marsh, an appliance salesman in the UK, decided to give his vacuum cleaner a well-earned break. Instead of cleaning carpets and curtains, Henry has been taken on walks in the park, pushed on swings, given a ride on a roller coaster, and even treated to his very own fried fish dinner.



Henry enjoys a walk and a meal.



A mega-bite of history

One girl's fossil discovery

A 9-year-old from Maryland put her passions—and presents—to good use. Molly Sampson received fossil hunting tools on Christmas morning. Later that day, in the Chesapeake Bay, she found a 5-inch tooth from a megalodon, a massive shark that lived millions of years ago. Sampson sent the tooth to a museum, which verified its authenticity and called it "a spectacular specimen."

Real OR fake?



Was there an epic meltdown?

Historic canal gets buttered up

When a fire broke out at a dairy factory in Wisconsin, 20 gallons of butter that had been sitting in a storage room began to melt. Soon, a stream of melted butter escaped into nearby storm drains and flowed toward the Portage Canal, a nearly 200-year-old waterway listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Before you could say "popcorn," a river of dairy had clogged the canal. What do you think? Is this story true, or did we churn out a lie?*



A room of pure imagination

A deliciously rare collection

Nick Franklin, from the UK, has been a fan of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* since he was a child. He now has a collection of Willy Wonka-themed items, such as a Wonka chocolate bar, a golden ticket, and a life-size model of Augustus Gloop. Franklin the superfan stores his collectibles in a special room in his house, which he has nicknamed the "Wonka wing." He is hoping to achieve a world record for his fabulous collection of Willy Wonka objects.

*You'd better believe it's real! Luckily, nobody was hurt, but neighbors reported a buttery smell in the air. The Portage fire department eventually managed to put out the fire, and a plumbing crew cleaned up the canal.



Your turn

Editor's note

Teamwork is a vital part of creating *The Week Junior* every week, but this week I'd like to thank every member of our staff for their collaboration on the front cover in particular. Creative director Dean Abatemarco came up with the striking design celebrating Black History Month, the entire team suggested prominent Americans we could showcase, photo editor Nataki Hewling searched for images, executive editor Mindy Walker had the brilliant idea of identifying every person shown in a Who's Who box (p4), and senior research editor Doug Grant and copy editor Stacy Cousino checked and rechecked the names. Of course, we could feature only a fraction of the people suggested given our space constraints, but we hope you enjoy trying to identify them—and quizzing your family members! You can find out more about Black History Month in our article on page 4.

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief



Lynn, 11 (right),
and Stella, 10,
Massachusetts

Honoring a civil rights leader

“For Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we wanted to do something special for our community. We made lots of cards for people in need, such as veterans, elderly people, children in hospitals, and refugee families, because we

thought they might be struggling. We wanted to help them, even just a little bit. We really wanted to make someone's day with a kind gesture and bring a much-needed smile to someone's face.”

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.

JOKE OF THE WEEK

What's black and white and red all over?
An embarrassed penguin



CHARITY OF THE WEEK



One Acre Fund

This organization helps farmers in nine sub-Saharan African countries grow more food and find their way out of poverty. It provides them with supplies, such as seeds and fertilizers, and trains them on the most effective ways to use these materials. Farmers working with the group have also planted more than 100 million trees since 2006. The organization's goal is to plant one billion trees by 2030. Find out more at oneacrefund.org.

ONE ACRE FUND



READER RECOMMENDS

What makes you smile and laugh?

What book, TV series, or podcast makes you laugh the most? Do you have a favorite joke to share? Is there a cartoon (or something else) you find especially funny? For a chance to be included in our upcoming Humor Issue (Issue 153), send us what you think is funny and why, along with your first name, age, and the state you live in. Have an adult email what you write, along with your photo, to hello@theweekjunior.com.



THE WEEK
Junior

IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.



YOUR PHOTOS

We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"My dad and I made the Lunar New Year cherry blossoms and it was so much fun!" **Lily, 9, New Jersey**

"I always take *The Week Junior* with me to read when I travel—even to Cloud Gate in Chicago!" **Asher, 9, Texas**



"I helped my mom with this falafel recipe. It was delicious!" **Zuri, 9, Minnesota**

POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjunior on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7–12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What is your favorite city in the world?

"Paris. It is so beautiful and all of the landmarks."

"Hollywood!"

"Taipei, there are so many cool skyscrapers."

"New York City because of all its beautiful lights."

In the big debate, we asked: Should kids get to stay up late for special events?

"Yes, they will remember those memories for the rest of their lives."

"I think it depends if they have school the next day."

"They totally should be able to celebrate and have fun with their parents."

"Kids should be able to stay up for special events. However, I do not consider weekends as special events."

Now tell us: What about 2023 has already been great for you and why?

Teacher OF THE WEEK



Teacher's Name: **Mr. Carotti**

School: **Syracuse Latin School**

"Mr. Carotti teaches us 7th grade science and makes his class amazing. He doesn't talk down to us and is super kind! He makes every student feel comfortable and happy around him. He tells jokes and makes us laugh during class. He respects everyone and is probably one of the best teachers I've ever had."

Virginia, 12, New York

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.



Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Keyword answer: throat

Code cracker

Pisces
Capricorn
Scorpio

Three for all

Super Bowl champs
personalized license plate
deep-dish pizza

P	A	I	N	T	B	R	U	S	H
S	P	I	E	N	A	C	A	T	
P	I	R	A	N	H	A	C	A	T
R	I	E	V	L					
O	W	L	S	R	E	C	E	S	S
U				W	R				H
T	A	T	T	O		E	C	H	O
	I	L	S	H	V				
C	A	R	V	A	C	C	I	N	E
A		E	E	A	N	L			
P	E	D	E	S	T	R	I	A	N

1	4	5	1	5
3	5	3	4	3
2	4	2	1	4
1	3	1	3	2
2	4	2	5	5



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 b) Spike 2 1938 3 True 4 c) Year of the Rabbit 5 Eight 6 c) Wyoming
7 Planet Word 8 False. She decides to build a treehouse. 9 a) Maine
10 False. It makes them more likely. 11 c) New Zealand 12 c) Thimbletack
13 True 14 Gloomy octopus 15 a) Megalodon

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 What is the name of the 23-year-old Chihuahua mix who set the record for world's oldest living dog?

a) Sam b) Spike c) Spot

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 In what year did a Harvard Medical School study on happiness begin?

3 True or false? Jumping beans move in random directions to find shade.

True ☐ False ☐

4 The 2023 Lunar New Year marked the start of what year in the Chinese tradition?

a) Year of the Cat b) Year of the Ox
c) Year of the Rabbit

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

5 How many official varieties of cheese are recognized by the US dairy industry?

6 A cloud formation that resembles waves was photographed in what state?

a) Idaho b) Montana c) Wyoming

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

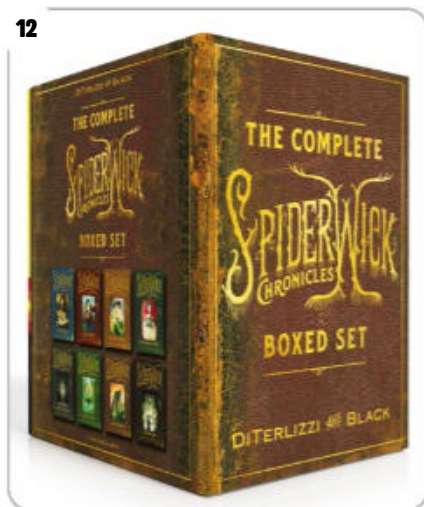
7 What is the name of a new museum in Washington, DC, that celebrates the power of language?

8 True or false? In the book *The Infinite Questions of Dottie Bing*, Dottie decides to build a swingset in her yard.

True ☐ False ☐



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.



9 Most of the lobster eaten in the US is caught in what state?

a) Maine b) Massachusetts c) Rhode Island

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

10 True or false? There is a parasite that can make wolves less likely to lead their pack.

True ☐ False ☐

11 Jacinda Ardern recently said she would step down as the prime minister of what country?

a) Australia b) England c) New Zealand

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

12 What character will actor Jack Dylan Grazer be voicing in the upcoming Disney series *The Spiderwick Chronicles*?

a) Mulgarath b) Hogsqueal
c) Thimbletack

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

13 True or false? Reverend Raphael Warnock is the first Black person from Georgia elected to the US Senate.

True ☐ False ☐

14 What is the name of the octopus that was recently observed "throwing" objects at neighbors?

15 A Maryland girl used fossil hunting tools she got for Christmas to find a tooth from what prehistoric creature?

a) Megalodon b) Velociraptor
c) Tyrannosaurus Rex

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

THE WEEK Junior

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Meet our Spring 2023 Junior Council members!



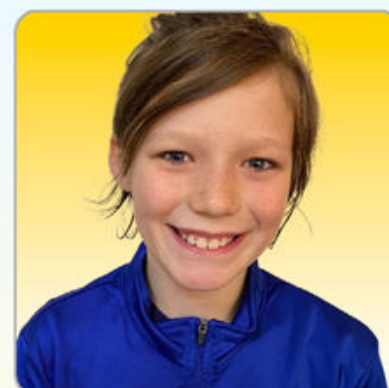
Jai, age 8, CT



Ryan, age 10, NY



Kyle, age 9, CA



Zinn, age 9, GA



Saranya, age 13, VA

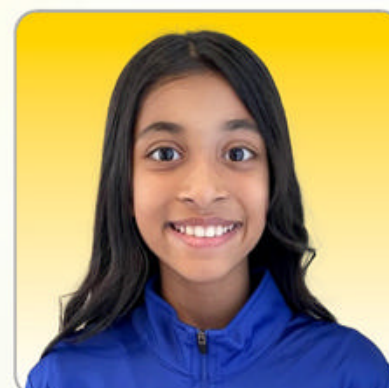


Andrew, age 12, VA



Sam, age 10, NH

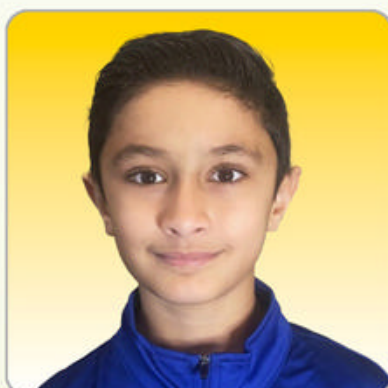
In October, we opened applications for our fourth Junior Council class. The response from children across America was amazing, and each application was terrific! It was a challenge to make a decision. We are excited for the 12 children shown here to join the Council and have their voices heard. Their ideas will appear in a future issue of the magazine. To find out more about Junior Council and be the first to know about future sessions, visit our website at juniorcouncil.theweekjunior.com.



Nishka, age 10, VA



Viviana, age 11, NM



Shrey, age 10, MA



Madison, age 10, MN



Oliver, age 11, CA

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**SPLENDID
SIGHT**

Built in the 1860s, the Bahia Palace in Morocco is famous for its stained glass that reflects colorful light onto ornate walls.